

# Conservation and Working Landscapes # forum ON IN(ENTIVE)

DATE: NOVEMBER 19, 2002 TIME: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Holiday Inn On The Bay

1355 North Harbor Drive San Diego, CA 92101

(800) 877-8920

#### **Mission Statement:**

To identify and evaluate promising programs or grants that will provide meaningful incentives to encourage species and habitat conservation on working landscapes.

This Working Landscapes Forum will provide a venue in which experts in this field can gather to evaluate and analyze potential programs and determine their value and applicability to San Diego County. It will provide an opportunity to identify correlations and overlaps between various programs and to identify the best potential source of funding for this effort. The outcome will be the recommendation of several promising working landscape programs for the County of San Diego to pursue.

Note: Forum agenda and area map to follow.

## **Conservation and Working Landscapes**

Our definition of a working landscape is one in which agriculture, forestry, and other natural resource based activities are conducted in a way that they are economically viable and conserve habitat for wildlife.

### Background:

The County of San Diego has an existing Natural Community Conservation Planning (NCCP) program titled the Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP). The MSCP addresses the southern portion of the County, and the County is currently working towards creating North County and East County MSCP Plans. The MSCP is a regional plan whose goal is to maintain and enhance biological diversity in the region and maintain viable populations of endangered, threatened and key sensitive species and their habitats. However, the existing MSCP is oriented to working mostly with land development and open space. The future North County and East County Subarea Plans will need to address a different set of land uses, namely working landscapes. Working landscapes include agricultural lands such as farms, ranches and orchards, and are sources of habitat for local endangered or threatened species. While members of the agricultural community are already good stewards of the land, the County feels that by providing incentives for conservation, the County can enable the agricultural community to go above and beyond their current stewardship of the land and enable the land to remain in private ownership. Furthermore, working landscapes with Best Management Options (BMOs) in place can provide significant benefits for some species.

By providing landowners with the opportunity to get involved in programs that encourage the application of BMOs and the conservation of habitat, the County of San Diego will potentially be more effective and cost-efficient in conserving habitat in the large expanses of North and East County. There are emerging funded programs at the state and federal level that may support a working landscape program pilot project or similar conservation programs.

A unique opportunity exists in San Diego County to coordinate current and future Natural Community Conservation Planning (NCCP) programs such as the MSCP with working landscapes programs. These two types of programs could complement each other by conserving resources and providing regulation relief to land owners.





## CONSERVATION AND WORKING LANDSCAPES FORUM REGISTRATION FORM

Please return by November 5, 2002

Name:	
Position:	
Organization:	
Address:	
Phone Number:	
Fax Number:	
Email Address:	

For more information on San Diego County's Multiple Species Conservation Program, visit our website at www.mscp-sandiego.org

To return registration form:

Mail to: Christine Brochard

County of San Diego, Department of Planning and Land Use 5201 Ruffin Road, Suite B, MS0650, San Diego, CA 92123

Fax to: Christine Brochard, (858) 694-2555

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